

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

In this response, the originally filed set of drawings (Figs. 1 – 19) are replaced with a set of formal drawings. These formal drawings have been amended in a manner that overcomes the shortcomings noted on PTO-948. In addition Figs. 15-19 have each been labeled as PRIOR ART. These latter mentioned amendments are deemed to overcome the objection raised in accordance with MPEP § 608.02(g).

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the above-identified Office Action. The above listing of the claims supersedes any previous listing. Favorable reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

Claim amendments/Status

In this response, claim 1 is amended via the inclusion of the subject matter of claims 2 and 3. Claims 2 and 3 are accordingly cancelled. In addition, withdrawn claims 4-6 are also cancelled without disclaimer or prejudice. The right to present claims 4-6 in a divisional application is reserved.

Inasmuch as claim 1 has been amended to include subject matter (viz., the subject matter of claim 3) which has been indicated as being allowable, and in that the use of hyphens has been obviated, the rejections under 35 USC § 112 and § 102(b) are rendered moot and as such claim 1, as amended, now stands in *prima facie* condition for allowance.

Abstract

The abstract has been amended to reduce the number of words below the 150 word limit and meet the other requirements noted in the Office Action.

Drawings

The drawings, as noted above, are replaced with formal drawings wherein all of the outstanding issues have been resolved including the labeling of Figs. 15-19 as Prior Art.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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